PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS.

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An Extract of a Letter written by Mr. Christ. Kirkby *the 4th of Nov.* 1673. *from* Dantzick, *giving an account of an Humane body open'd, and of* 38 *stones found in the bladder thereof, &c.*

SIR,

I Should not have interrupted your studies, if the considerableness of the Relation herein inclosed did not oblige me to send it to you. And although I find in *Numb.* 26. of your *Philosophical Transactions* p. 482. an account of 96 stones taken out of one bladder; yet, I hope, this of 38 stones will not be unacceptable, since several of them were pretty large,

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and of the leſſer ſort divers were triangular and quadrangular; their flats worn to a great ſmoothneſs, and their corners blunted. The greateſt ſtone weighed 206 grains; the leaſt 3 grains; all the 38 weighed 4⅞ ounces. The matter of the Stones is exceeding compact, and like white clay; and, though the ſeveral coats may be diſcern'd in one of them which I broke, yet they are not eaſily ſeparable. But what I wonder at moſt, is, that in the diſſection of the Kidneys and Ureters not any ſign of ſtone or gravel was to be found. I leave it to better Judgments to diſcuſs, *How* then and *Where* theſe ſtones were generated; and if it be granted, in the bladder, I ſee no reaſon but that (as Mr. *Boyle* ſomewhere intimates) there might be ſome liquors, that might paſs the ſeveral parts of the body without exerting their force, untill they meet with adapted matter to work upon. And why might not then the Stone in the bladder be curable, eſpecially if the Patients kidneys be ſo qualified as this Man's ſeem to have been, void of any petrifying matter?

Follows the Relation it ſelf, made by Caſparus Wendland, *Chirurgion of the City of* Dantzick; *Engliſhed out of High-Dutch.*

MR. *John Braun*, a Gentleman of 71 years of age, being dead, I was deſired to open his body, to ſee whether we could find the cauſe of the exceſſive pains, he had endur'd for two years and an half in the *penis*, with a continual cutting, burning and preſſing of his urine, coming from him drop-wiſe; until at laſt it came to a conſtant endeavor of going to ſtool and of making water, which, a few weeks before his death, ended in a continual running of Urine with very ſharp pain; after which about four days before his death, to my knowledge, the water was totally ſtopp'd. He being dead, I did, in the preſence of his Phyſitian, and other friends, upon the opening of the body, obſerve the following particulars; *viz.* The internal parts being all carefully examined, we found no defect in them, until we came to the *Bladder*, which being by us taken out, we found it quite full of ſtones, of which the biggeſt was of the bigneſs of a Pigeons-egg, and ſomewhat larger. Of the bigger ſort there were

were 16, yet differing in ſize. The reſt were very ſmall, to the number of 22. The bladder being diſplay'd, we found not a drop of Urin in it, but it had already made, on the ſide of the orifice of the bladder, an opening of a conſiderable bigneſs; upon which, death neceſſarily enſued. In the Kidneys and Ureters there could not be found the leaſt grain or mark of ſand.

An Extract of a Letter, written by Monſieur Denys *Novemb. 17. laſt from* Paris, *concerning an odd* fætus *lately born there; Engliſh't out of French.*

SIR,

A Few days ſince, I was called to a ſick woman, brought to bed that very day I went to ſee her. After I had preſcribed the phyſick I judged neceſſary for the mother, I asked for the child, which died, I heard, as ſoon as 't was born. The Body of it appeared outwardly very well form'd and very fat; but the head was ſo deform'd, that it frighted all that were preſent. It had no front; the two eyes were on the top of the face, very big, and almoſt without an orbite to lodge them in. The upper and hind-part of the Head was red like coagulated blood, and reſembled the bottom of a Calves-head when cut and ſever'd from the Vertebra's of the neck. I had the curioſity to examine this red fleſh, and I found under it a Bone, that was not a hollow skul, but a ſolid bone in the form of a ſmall oyſter. I had it opened every way; but I found no hollowneſs nor brains in it. This bone was only faſten'd before to the bones of the face, and not behind to the vertebra's of the neck; ſo that the marrow of the back-bone had no communication with the head. I purſued the Optic nerves, and loſt them in this bone, which was in lieu of the *cranium*, and was not at all ſpungy, but very hard. It ſeems to me ſomewhat extraordinary, that a child ſhould be able to live nine months without brains; for I was inform'd, that it was very lively and brisk in the mothers belly, but died as ſoon as it came into the Air.